GUNKA NO BALZER

by NAKAJIMA Michitsune

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Gunka no balzer Side Story ch1

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Weißen. Near the Moreil border
HE'S IN THE BACK ALLEY CHASE HIM!!!
The start of a series focused on the patriot!!
軍靴のバルツァー外伝
Liebknecht the Patriot
NO MATTER WHAT, DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE.
THAT PERSON IS BEHIND THE TERRORIST ATTACK IN THE CAPITAL. HE'S A BRUTAL POLITICAL OPPONENT.
A few days after that coup-d'etat. 7 years ago. His destination is?
ガターン
ガタン
SHOULD I PASS THE BORDER AND ESCAPE TO THE NEIGHBORING MOREIL...?
THE BORDER POLICE MIGHT NOT HAVE REALIZED MY RUSE YET
ガターン

Chapter 1
The Experiment B ins.
I HAVE TO SECURE FUNDS AND POLITICAL CONNECTIONS. .
SERIOUSLY... I'M SNEAKING AROUND LIKE A LITTLE CROOK.
Incit g riots throughout the whole continent
a great revolutionary or just a swindler?!
BUT BEFORE THAT, I NEED A HIDEOUT FOR THE TIME BEING. .
中島三千恒
NAKAJIMA MICHITSUNE
軍靴のバルツァー
外伝
～Liebknecht the Patriot～

Moreil Republic
Saint-Seine
Coalmines.
WE HAVE MORE WORKERS NOW, BUT OUR WAGES ARE BEING CUT RAPIDLY.
MOREOVER, WE ARE FORCED TO PAY SO MUCH FOR FOOD AND DAILY NECESSITIES BY THE SHOPOWNERS.
WE CAN'T PUT UP WITH IT ANY LONGER!!
WE HAVE TO UNITE!
……
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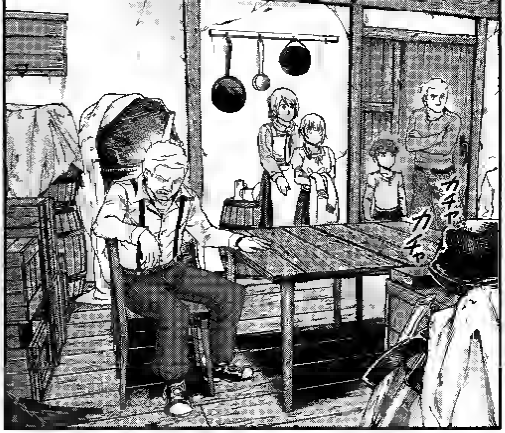
I WONDER HOW THEY DON'T GET TIRED OF ALL THAT TALK.
GEEZ EVERY SINGLE DAY
HEY.
OUT-SIDE
EVEN THOUGH STRIKING WON'T CHANGE ANY-THING.
GEEZ, THOSE OLD MEN ARE JUST STUPID
ガタッ
WAIT, SOMEONE MIGHT BE HERE...
DON'T... NOT HERE...
HUH?

slide
STU-PID, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE WOULD BE HERE...
N-NO, BEFORE THAT...
A TERRIBLE WOUND... I'LL CALL FOR A DOCTOR!
WHA... WHAT THE HELL?!
ARE, ARE YOU OKAY...?
SOMETHING TO EAT AND DRINK.
rumbllllllle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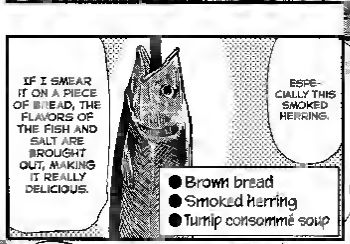

IF I SMEAR IT ON A PIECE OF BREAD, THE FLAVORS OF THE FISH AND SALT ARE BROUGHT OUT, MAKING IT REALLY DELICIOUS.
ESPE-CIALLY THIS SMOKED HERRING.
● Brown bread
● Smoked herring
● Turnip consommé soup

IT'S MY FIRST TIME EATING THIS, BUT IT TASTES REALLY NICE.

WHO'S THAT GUY?
BIG SIS PICKED HIM UP.
MMM MM...

WHO ARE YOU REALLY?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD MAKE A CITY BOY'S EYES SPARKLE?
Haha
I'M MERELY AN UNEMPLOYED PERSON.

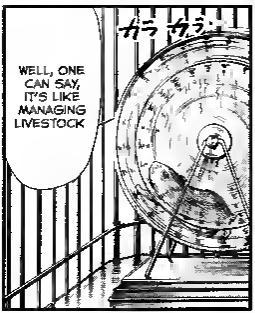
I'M LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO WORK AND SLEEP.
WOULD YOU MIND IF I INTRUDE ON YOU FOR A WHILE?
.....
... DO YOU HAVE MONEY?

THIS IS REALLY EMBARRASSING, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON ME...
MY INJURY HAS ALMOST HEALED, SO DO YOU THINK YOU COULD YOU INTRODUCE ME TO WORK IN THE COALMINES...?

HOW IS THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COALMINES GOING?

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

WE'VE STARTED INVESTING IN STOCKS RECENTLY
SO FROM NOW ON, WE CAN PICK MORE PROMISING COALMINES.
IT'S AS YOU SAID. IT MAKES MORE SENSE THAN PAYING THE RENT
WE HAVE A LOT OF CHEAP AND DISPOSABLE LABOR.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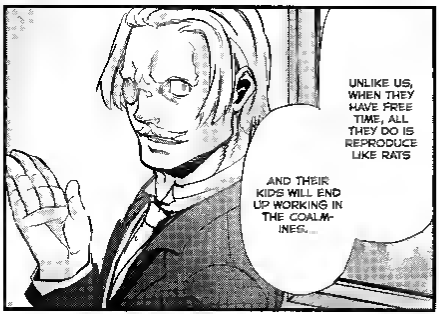
WELL, ONE CAN SAY, IT'S LIKE MANAGING LIVESTOCK


UNLIKE US, WHEN THEY HAVE FREE TIME, ALL THEY DO IS REPRODUCE LIKE RATS
AND THEIR KIDS WILL END UP WORKING IN THE COALMINES.

BUT RECENTLY THE MINERS SEEM TO HAVE GATHERED TO PLOT TROUBLE.
A GENERAL STRIKE?
IT'S GIVING ME A HEADACHE.

WE WON'T WORK UNTIL THE MANAGERS AGREE TO IMPROVE OUR WORKING CONDITIONS.
THE MINE WILL BE ON STRIKE FROM NOW ON.

UNDERSTOOD...

No...
No way...

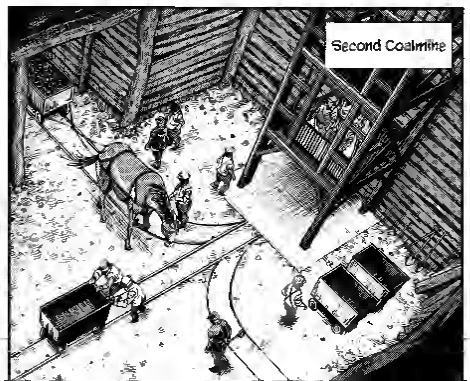
I WANT TO HELP, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK FOR A JOB SOMEWHERE ELSE.
WAIT, FATHER!

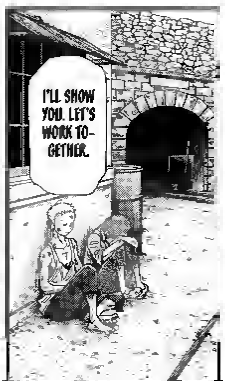
I'd like to witness the whole thing for futur reference, but...
A?

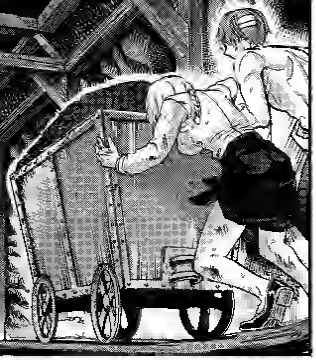
That's quite an int r sting attempt to change the environment on the labor rs' own initiative.
A general strike...

PLEASE, WAIT A MINUTE!
UH...
UHH...

DESPITE WHAT MY FATHER SAID,
THERE'S ANOTHER COALMINE IN THESE MOUN-TAINS.
AND... WE HAVE A JOB OPENING.

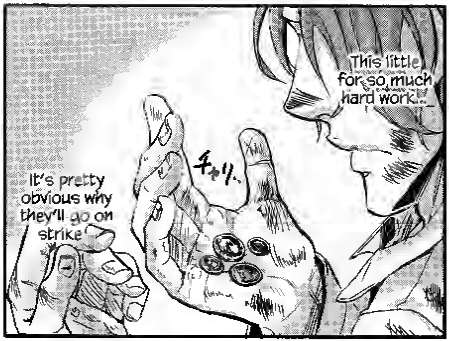

Second Coalmine

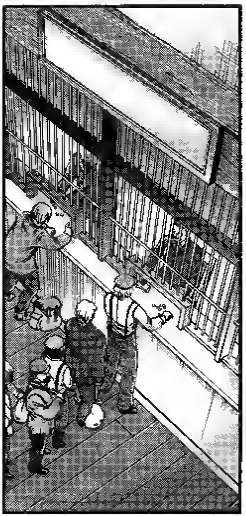

I'LL SHOW YOU. LET'S WORK TO-GETHER.

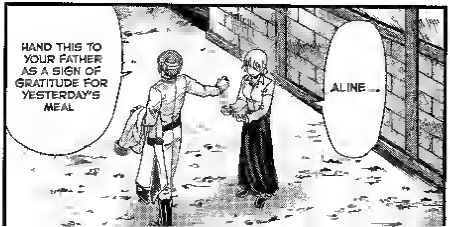


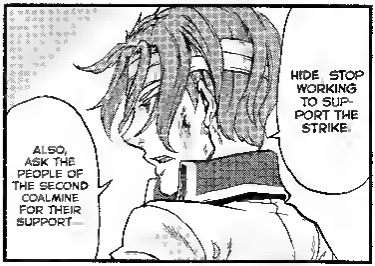
There's not much chance to make a big deal out of it.

So if one of the coalmin 's go on strike, it won't cause very serious probl ms for th managers...
There are a thousand miners in each coalmine. There is enough manpower to mine 40 tons of coal pur year.


This little for so much hard work!
It's pretty obvious why they'll go on strike



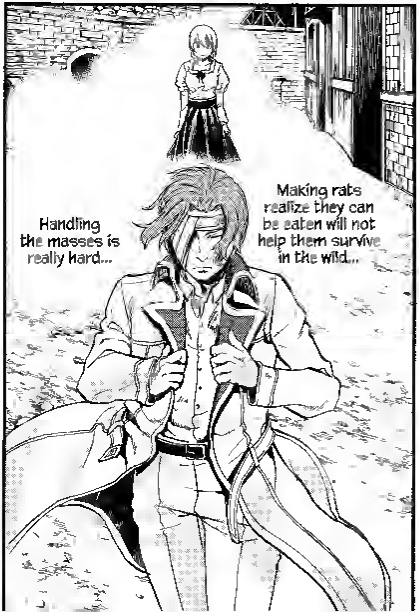

HAND THIS TO YOUR FATHER AS A SIGN OF GRATITUDE FOR YESTERDAY'S MEAL
ALINE ...


HIDE. STOP WORKING TO SUPPORT THE STRIKE.
ALSO, ASK THE PEOPLE OF THE SECOND COALMINE FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

NO... YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
BESIDES, IF WE WORK HERE TOGETHER...
YOUR FATHER IS RIGHT.
バサッ

……
……?

ARE YOU GOING AWAY?
キュッ…


Handling the masses is really hard...
Making rats realize they can be eaten will not help them survive in the wild...

グイッ

I DON'T WANT TO SPEND MY ENTIRE LIFE LIKE THIS...!!
THEN TAKE ME WITH YOU!
I CAN'T TAKE YOU WITH ME...
..What a foolish girl
BUT
MAYBE I CAN CHANGE YOUR FUTURE A LITTLE
The next day.
I'VE ALREADY SENT OUT THE MESSAGE THAT THE FIRST MINE IS GOING ON STRIKE.
START THE FIRST MINE!
WE WILL WORK THERE!

THIS IS A GOOD SIGN.

NOW THERE'S A PROSPECT FOR SUCCESS.
WHY DON'T YOU USE THIS CHANCE AND JOIN THE STRIKE?

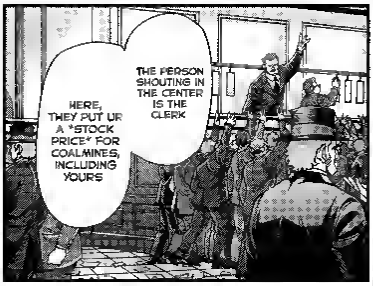
THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION IN THE SECOND MINE. THE ENTRANCE HAS COLLAPSED!!

THE MANAGERS WON'T ANSWER OUR DEMANDS IF WE SKIP WORK!
IF... IF WE DON'T WORK, WE'LL STARVE IN A WEEK.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR STRIKES

DON'T YOU WANT TO REDEEM YOURSELF?
YOU'RE NEGOTIATING WITH THE MARKET.
YOU DON'T NEED TO DIRECTLY PERSUADE THE MANAGERS.

WE CAN'T CARRY OUT THIS PLAN ON OUR OWN...
IS IT OKAY TO RELY ON A STRANGER?
TRUST HIM WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE IT TO HIM
ALINE, COME HERE

WHAT... IS THIS PLACE...
THIS IS A PLACE FOR STOCK EXCHANGE.
EVEN WELL-KNOWN MINING COMPANIES ARE LISTED HERE.


THE PERSON SHOUTING IN THE CENTER IS THE CLERK
HERE, THEY PUT UP A "STOCK PRICE" FOR COALMINES, INCLUDING YOURS

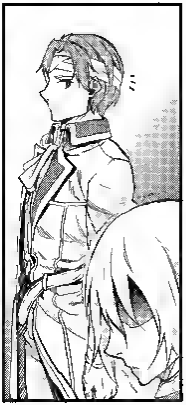
THIS... PLACE...

THE PRICE OF SEII COALMINE IS 230 MORELS?
SOLD FOR 200 MORELS!!

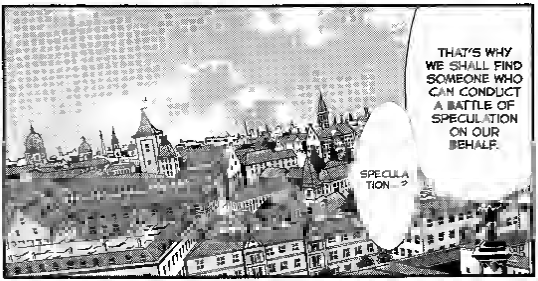
HERE, THEY CAN REPEATEDLY CLAIM RIGHTS OVER THE COALMINES AND OFFER THEM FOR SALE.
THE HARDER YOU WORK, THE HIGHER THE PRICE WILL BE, AND THE FULLER THEIR POCKETS GET.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY

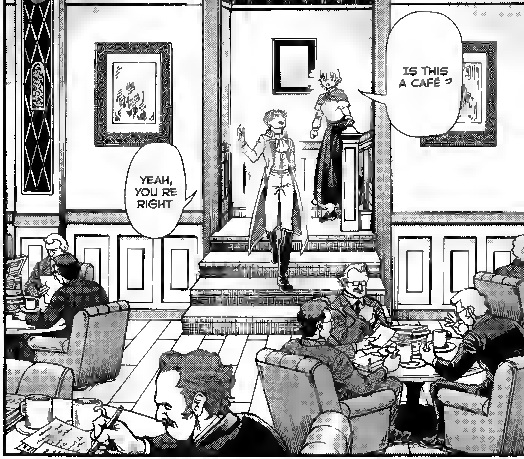
YOU SAID WE CAN REDEEM OURSELVES, RIGHT?
CAN WE DO IT... HERE?!

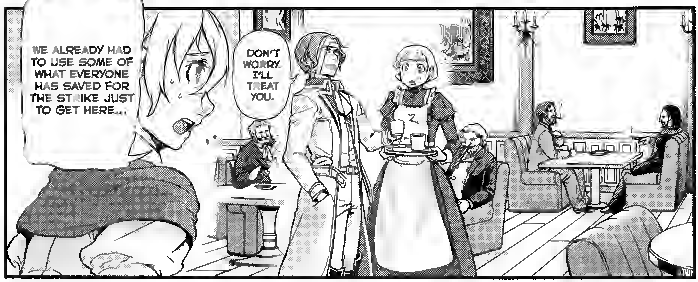


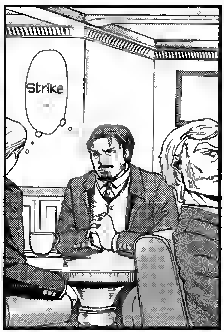
WE'RE HERE.


THAT'S WHY WE SHALL FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN CONDUCT A BATTLE OF SPECULATION ON OUR BEHALF.
SPECULATION...?

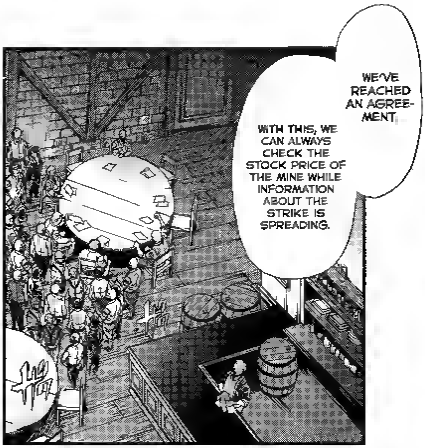
LET'S TAKE A SHORT BREAK HERE
WE CAN'T! WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY!


IS THIS A CAFÉ ?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT

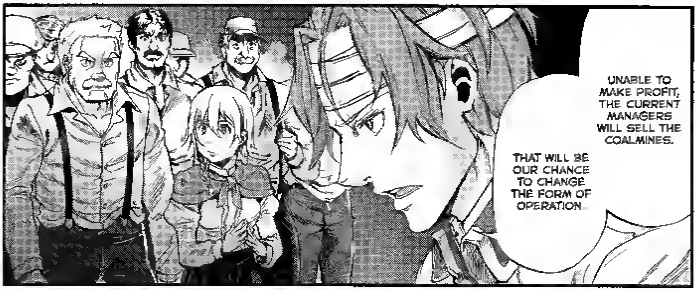

WE ALREADY HAD TO USE SOME OF WHAT EVERYONE HAS SAVED FOR THE STRIKE JUST TO GET HERE...
DON'T WORRY. I'LL TREAT YOU.

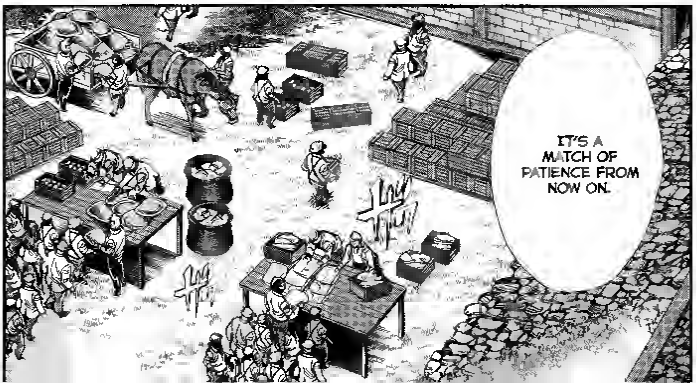

Strike

THE PRICE FOR THIS COALMINE HAS FALLEN TO 750 MORELS (ABOUT 700,000 YEN) PER STOCK
WHY DON'T YOU STOCK UP?
WE CAN PROLONG IT FOR A FEW MONTHS AT MOST
I WILL INFORM YOU OF THE CHANGES IN THE SITUATION AS LONG AS IT LASTS
ONCE THE MANAGEMENT RIGHTS FALL INTO THE RIGHT HANDS THE MINE WILL START OPERATING AGAIN.
HOW FAR WILL IT GO?
IS THIS ABOUT THE STRIKE MISSY WAS TALKING ABOUT?
HMM...
SO... WHAT DO YOU WANT IN EXCHANGE?
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO SPREAD INFORMATION ABOUT THE STOCK PRICE OF THIS COALMINE

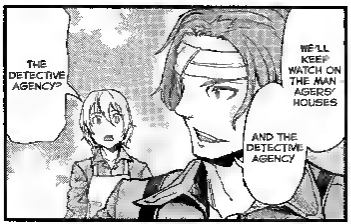

WE'VE REACHED AN AGREEMENT.
WITH THIS, WE CAN ALWAYS CHECK THE STOCK PRICE OF THE MINE WHILE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STRIKE IS SPREADING.

THAT SOUNDS ALL RIGHT... COUNT US IN.


UNABLE TO MAKE PROFIT, THE CURRENT MANAGERS WILL SELL THE COALMINES.
THAT WILL BE OUR CHANCE TO CHANGE THE FORM OF OPERATION.

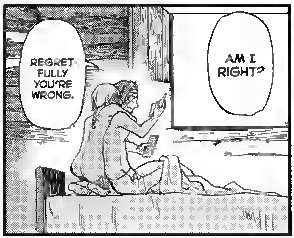

IT'S A MATCH OF PATIENCE FROM NOW ON.

FOODSTUFFS AND DAILY NECESSITIES WILL BE PURCHASED COLLECTIVELY FROM WHOLE-SALERS, SO EVERYONE WILL BE SUPPLIED EQUALLY.
WE SHALL ESTABLISH A COOPERATIVE FUND TO ACCOM-MODATE OUR LIVING EXPENSES DURING THE STRIKE SO THAT NO ONE WILL BE LEFT OUT
IF YOU DON'T HAVE MONEY EITHER SHARE PROVISIONS WITH YOUR FAMILY OR COVER IT BY WORKING.
WOW, IT'S NEW!
WE ALL WEARING THE SAME CLOTHES.


THE DETECTIVE AGENCY?
WE'LL KEEP WATCH ON THE MAN AGERS' HOUSES
AND THE DETECTIVE AGENCY

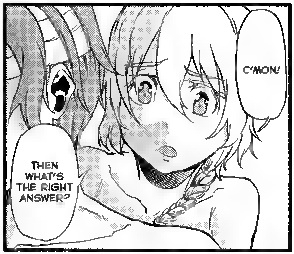
WITH THIS, WE CAN CARRY ON FOR TWO MONTHS.
THEN ...

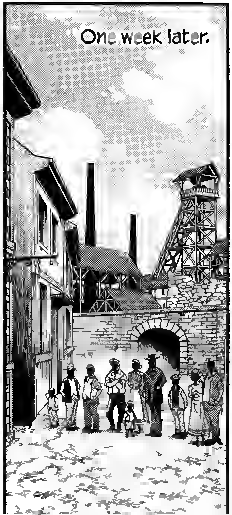
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE NEED TO CHECK HOW PEOPLE COME AND GO.


REGRET FULLY YOU'RE WRONG.
AM I RIGHT?

WONDER-FUL!
YOU'RE HIRING DETECTIVES TO GET A HOLD ON THE MANAGERS' WEAKNESSES!

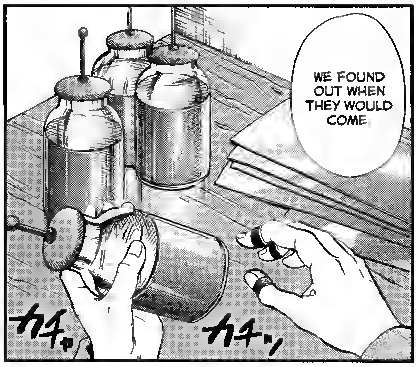
WHY DO I NEED TO KEEP WATCH ON DETEC TIVES.


C'MON!
THEN WHAT'S THE RIGHT ANSWER?

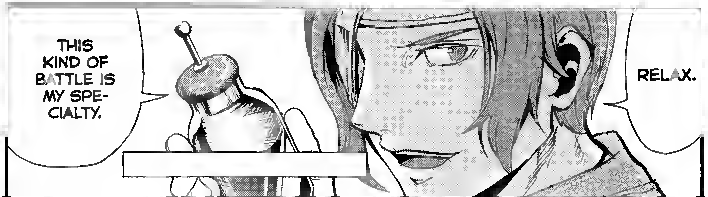

One week later.

YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH.
RIGHT... MAYBE IN A WEEK...
BEFORE THAT, I NEED TO MAKE A LOT OF ARRANGE-MENTS

Even though they're called detectives, they're not like those famous detectives that appear in stories.



The agency was founded to keep watch on the workers for major enterprises
It's a private militia that hires a lot of former soldiers.



What follows an information war is a real war? Why and how would Liebknecht fight against capitalists?

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